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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Xiolin Zi

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1615

7590

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EXAMINER

OLSON, ERIC

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1623

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Detailed Action

This application claims benefit of provisional application 60/459495, filed April 1, 2003. Claims 1-21 are pending in this application.

Election/Restriction

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1, 8-12, and 20-21, drawn to a method for treating bladder or urinary tract cancer comprising administering a phenyl ketone compound according to formula 1, classified in class 514, subclass 685 for example.
- II. Claims 2-5 and 13-17, drawn to a method for treating bladder or urinary tract cancer comprising administering a hetero-bicyclo-ketone compound according to formula 2 or 3A-C, classified in class 514, subclass 456 for example.
- III. Claims 6-7 and 18-19, drawn to a method for treating bladder or urinary tract cancer comprising administering a hetero-tricyclo-ketone compound according to formula 4A-B, classified in class 514, subclass 455 for example.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I-III are directed to related methods for treating bladder or urinary tract cancer. The related inventions are distinct if the inventions as claimed do not overlap in scope, i.e., are mutually exclusive; the inventions as claimed are not obvious variants; and the inventions as claimed are either not capable of use together or can have a

Art Unit: 1623

materially different design, mode of operation, function, or effect. See MPEP § 806.05(j). In the instant case, the claimed methods involve active pharmaceutical agents which possess separate and distinct core structures.

Chemical structures which are similar are presumed to function similarly, while chemical structures which are not similar are not presumed to function similarly. The presumption even for similar chemical structures though is not irrefutable, but may be overcome by scientific reasoning or evidence showing that the structure of the prior art would not have been expected to function as the structure of the claimed invention. Note that in accordance with the holding of ***Application of Papesch*, 50 CCPA 1084, 315 F.2s 381, 137 USPQ 43 (CCPA 1963)**, and ***In re Lalu*, 223 USPQ 1257 (Fed. Cir. 1984)**, chemical structures are patentably distinct where structures are either not structurally similar, or the prior art fails to suggest a function of a claimed compound would have been expected from a similar structure.

Thus, a reference anticipating or rendering obvious one member will not anticipate or render another obvious. This difference is illustrated by the separate classifications of the active compounds in each group. A chemical structure or name search for more than one of the aforementioned groups in a single application would be unreasonably broad and would require separate searches of the chemical literature for each group and impose an undue search burden on the Office.

Although claims 2-7 are written so as to depend from claim 1, the structures pictured in said claims lack antecedent basis in the structure pictured in claim 1. Therefore, they are treated as independent claims for purposes of restriction. Applicant

is free to amend the claims either to make them properly dependent on claim 1 or to amend them to be independent claims.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter as recognized by their different classifications, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because the above restriction requirement is complex, a telephone call to applicant's agent to request an oral election was not made. (See MPEP 812.01) Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric S. Olson whose telephone number is 571-272-9051. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shaojia Anna Jiang can be reached on (571)272-0627. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

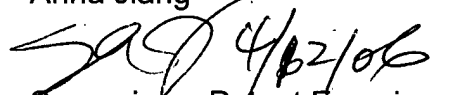
Art Unit: 1623

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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3/31/06

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